

REMARKS

This continuation application is filed instead of a Request for Continued Examination of its parent application, U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/900,834.

The claims of this continuation application correspond with the claims of the parent application, in which several of the pending claims had been allowed, others had been objected to as to form, and some had been rejected. Claims 1-28 of this application correspond with allowed claims 24-51 of the parent application. Claims 29-31 correspond with claim 56 of the parent application, placed into independent form as three separate claims. Claims 32-34 similarly correspond with claim 58 of the parent application. Claims 35-37 correspond with claim 59 of the parent application; and claims 38-40 correspond with claim 60 of the parent application, all placed into independent form.

Claims 41-45 of the present application correspond generally, but not identically, with claims 52-55 and 57 of the parent application, and, it is submitted, patentably define the present invention over the prior art, including European patent application publication No. 566296 A1, cited by the Examiner against claims 52-55 and 57 of the parent application.

The Examiner is requested to address communications regarding the application to the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,



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